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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Senator Burling, on the motion to return.

SENATOR BURLING: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. One of the first things I became involved with when I became a member of this body, a little over two years ago, was an issue in my district where we have a lake called Lake Hastings. And that lake is surrounded by homes owned by private individuals, and the jurisdiction of the lake comes under the Hastings City Council. It seems as though that the situation on the lake had gotten so dangerous that the residents couldn't use the lake or sit out in the backyards in the evening or open their windows in the evening. And the city council was reluctant to shut down the use of the lake, and so the law enforcement in Hastings got involved with it, and an officer by the name of Scott Eveland spearheaded a training program, and that was the route that they chose to take there in my district to help to make the lake continue to be used and continue to be used in a safer manner. And so I commend them for instigating that training program, and I understand that they were a very important part of this bill, and I thank them for their help, and I thank my colleagues, I thank Senator Erdman for bringing this bill to us. I think it's very important to keep our lakes safe and still usable. It's a nice water sport in the state of Nebraska, but we need to maintain safe water sport in our state, and so I encourage the passage of this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Burling. Senator Bourne, on the motion to return.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I remember one of the first years that I was down here, we had a debate. I think it was Senator Hilgert's bill over boating, you know, and I remember it being a huge prolonged, protracted debate that started out on General File and went, you know, with hours of debate on General, and hours of debate on Select, and here we are on Final Reading, and we're going to do something that I think maybe is more dramatic than even Senator Hilgert's